AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for multimedia on demand, the system comprising:

a plurality of buses comprising a media bus, a network bus, and a system data bus;

a plurality of tuners and demodulators connected to the system data bus and connected to an analog-to-digital converter, the plurality of tuners and demodulators sending an analog information signal to the analog-to-digital converter, and the analog-to-digital converter outputting digital information signal based at least in part on the analog information signal sending information signals to a media bus;

the plurality of tuners and demodulators also connected to a decryption circuit that decrypts an encrypted information signal received from the plurality of tuners and demodulators and produces a decrypted information signal;

a decoder circuit connected to the decryption circuit that converts the decrypted information signal from one format to a second format;

a cipher/decipher circuit connected to the decoder circuit and connected to the analog-to-digital converter that deciphers the digital information from the analog-to-digital converter and deciphers the converted decrypted information signal from the decoder circuit;

the cipher/decipher circuit connected to the media bus and sending deciphered information signals to the media bus;

the [[a]] system data bus connected coupled to the media bus and configured to only receive receiving the deciphered information signals from the media bus, the system data bus unable to send information to the media bus;

a video overlay processor connected between the system data bus and the media bus, the video overly processor receiving the deciphered information signals from the media bus and sending video overlay signals to the system data bus;

the [[a]] network bus connected coupled to the system data bus and receiving system data bus information and the video overly signals communicated along the system data bus the information signals;

a mass storage device connected to the system data bus and storing the ~~information signals~~ system data bus information and the video overly signals;

a data switch connected to the network bus, the data switch receiving the system data bus information and the video overly signals ~~information signals~~ and sending the ~~information signals~~ system data bus information and the video overly signals to one or more switch ports;

a processor connected to the system data bus; and

memory coupled to the system data bus,

wherein the deciphered information signals communicate from the media bus, to the system data bus, and to the network bus for routing by the data switch,

wherein the video overly signals communicate from the video overlay processor, to the system data bus, and to the network bus for routing by the data switch, and

wherein data switch information from the data switch communicates from the network bus to the system data bus, but the data switch information is prevented from communicating to the media bus.

2.   (Cancel)

3.   (Cancel)

4.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a storage position identifier for each multimedia content item stored in the memory, the storage position identifier specifying a logical storage position for the multimedia content item, the storage position identifier received from a service provider and updated by the service provider.

5.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a web server coupled to the system data bus, the web server providing access to content stored in the mass storage device.

6.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a graphical user interface stored in the memory that provides access to content stored in the mass storage device.

7.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a graphical user interface stored in the memory that provides access to information available from the data switch.

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16.   (Cancel)

17.   (Currently Amended) A system for multimedia on demand, the system comprising:

~~a plurality of tuners and demodulators sending information signals to a media bus;~~

~~a system data bus connected to the media bus and connected to the plurality of tuners and demodulators and receiving the information signals;~~

~~a network bus connected to the system data bus and receiving the information signals;~~

~~a mass storage device connected to the system data bus and storing the information signals, the mass storage device adapted to receive and store the information signals as a plurality of multimedia content items;~~

~~a processor connected to the system data bus; and~~

a plurality of buses comprising a media bus, a network bus, and a system data bus;

a plurality of tuners and demodulators connected to the system data bus and connected to an analog-to-digital converter, the plurality of tuners and demodulators sending an analog information signal to the analog-to-digital converter, and the analog-to-digital converter outputting digital information signal based at least in part on the analog information signal;

the plurality of tuners and demodulators also connected to a decryption circuit that decrypts an encrypted information signal received from the plurality of tuners and demodulators and produces a decrypted information signal;

a decoder circuit connected to the decryption circuit that converts the decrypted information signal from one format to a second format;

a cipher/decipher circuit connected to the decoder circuit and connected to the analog-to-digital converter that deciphers the digital information from the analog-to-digital converter and deciphers the converted decrypted information signal from the decoder circuit;

the cipher/decipher circuit connected to the media bus and sending deciphered information signals to the media bus;

the system data bus connected to the media bus and configured to only receive the deciphered information signals from the media bus, the system data bus unable to send information to the media bus;

a video overlay processor connected between the system data bus and the media bus, the video overly processor receiving the deciphered information signals from the media bus and sending video overlay signals to the system data bus;

the network bus connected to the system data bus and receiving system data bus information and the video overly signals communicated along the system data bus;

a mass storage device connected to the system data bus and storing the system data bus information and the video overly signals;

a data switch connected to the network bus, the data switch receiving the system data bus information and the video overly signals and sending the system data bus information and the video overly signals to one or more switch ports;

a processor connected to the system data bus; and

memory connected to the system data bus, the memory storing a multimedia-on-demand data table and multimedia-on-demand instructions,

the multimedia-on-demand data table including a plurality of multimedia content usage records, each multimedia content usage record adapted to include a multimedia content usage indicator field to store a multimedia content usage indicator, the multimedia content usage indicator associated with a multimedia content item stored on the mass storage device, and

the multimedia-on-demand instructions to be executed by the processor, the multimedia-on-demand instructions including instructions to

automatically receive the plurality of multimedia content items at a transmission rate that is less than a real time transmission rate in bytes per second, and

send a multimedia-on-demand usage message, the multimedia-on-demand usage message to be based at least in part on the multimedia-on-demand data table;

wherein the deciphered information signals communicate from the media bus, to the system data bus, and to the network bus for routing by the data switch,

wherein the video overly signals communicate from the video overlay processor, to the system data bus, and to the network bus for routing by the data switch, and

wherein data switch information from the data switch communicates from the network bus to the system data bus, but the data switch information is prevented from communicating to the media bus.

18.   (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein each multimedia content usage record is adapted to include a multimedia content identifier field to store a multimedia content identifier, the multimedia content identifier to correspond to a multimedia content item of the plurality of multimedia content items stored on the mass storage device.

19.   (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein a multimedia content usage indicator is selected from the group consisting of a content played indicator, a content purchased indicator, and a content unused indicator.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising a storage position identifier for each multimedia content item, the storage position identifier specifying a logical storage position for the multimedia content item, the storage position identifier received from a service provider and updated by the service provider with each change in the multimedia-on-demand data table.

21.   (Cancel)
22.   (Cancel)

23.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the multimedia-on-demand instructions include instructions to:

receive a portion of a multimedia content item, the portion of the multimedia content item being less than the entirety of the multimedia content item, the portion of the multimedia content item being received at a transmission rate, the transmission rate being less than the playback rate in bytes per second; and

make a determination that continuous playback of the entirety of the multimedia content item can begin prior to receipt of the entirety of the multimedia content item.

24.   (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the determination is based at least in part on the transmission rate and the playback rate.

25.   (Original) The system of claim 17, wherein the multimedia-on-demand instructions include instructions to receive the plurality of multimedia content items from a multimedia-on-demand service provider, the multimedia-on-demand service provider selected from the group consisting of a direct broadcast satellite television service provider, a cable television service provider, a terrestrial broadcast television service provider, a wireless broadband data service provider, and a wired broadband data service provider.

26.   (Currently Amended) A method for providing multimedia-on-demand, the method comprising:

connecting a plurality of tuners and demodulators to a system data bus and to an analog-to-digital converter, the plurality of tuners and demodulators sending an analog information signal to the analog-to-digital converter, and the analog-to-digital converter outputting digital information signal based at least in part on the analog information signal;

connecting the plurality of tuners and demodulators to a decryption circuit that decrypts an encrypted information signal received from the plurality of tuners and demodulators and produces a decrypted information signal;

connecting a decoder circuit to the decryption circuit that converts the decrypted information signal from one format to a second format;

connecting a cipher/decipher circuit to the decoder circuit and to the analog-to-digital converter that deciphers the digital information from the analog-to-digital converter and deciphers the converted decrypted information signal from the decoder circuit;

connecting the cipher/decipher circuit to the media bus and sending deciphered information signals to the media bus;

connecting the system data bus to the media bus and configuring the system data bus to only receive the deciphered information signals from the media bus, the system data bus unable to send information to the media bus;

connecting a video overlay processor between the system data bus and the media bus, the video overly processor receiving the deciphered information signals from the media bus and sending video overlay signals to the system data bus;

connecting the network bus to the system data bus and receiving system data bus information and the video overly signals communicated along the system data bus;

connecting a mass storage device to the system data bus and storing the system data bus information and the video overly signals;

connecting a data switch to the network bus, the data switch receiving the system data bus information and the video overly signals and sending the system data bus information and the video overly signals to one or more switch ports;

connecting a processor connected to the system data bus; and

connecting memory to the system data bus,

~~receiving information signals at a plurality of tuners and demodulators;~~

~~sending the information signals to a media bus;~~

~~receiving the information signals over a system data bus connected to the media bus and connected to the plurality of tuners and demodulators;~~

~~receiving the information signals over a network bus connected to the system data bus;~~

~~storing the information signals in a mass storage device connected to the system data;~~

~~receiving the information signals at a data switch connected to the network bus;~~

~~sending the information signals to one or more switch ports of the data switch;~~

~~processing the information signals at a processor connected to the system data bus;~~

~~storing the information signals in memory connected to the system data bus;~~

processing an instruction to automatically receive a first multimedia content item at a transmission rate that is less than a real time transmission rate in bytes per second;

storing the first multimedia content item;

modifying a data table to include a first multimedia content item identifier, the first multimedia content item identifier corresponding to the first multimedia content item; and

sending a multimedia usage report, the multimedia usage report based at least in part on the data table;

wherein the deciphered information signals communicate from the media bus, to the system data bus, and to the network bus for routing by the data switch,

wherein the video overly signals communicate from the video overlay processor, to the system data bus, and to the network bus for routing by the data switch, and

wherein data switch information from the data switch communicates from the network bus to the system data bus, but the data switch information is prevented from communicating to the media bus.

27.   (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising:

receiving a multimedia content item usage instruction related to the first multimedia content item;

directing usage of the first multimedia content item based at least in part on the multimedia content item usage instruction; and

updating the data table based at least in part on the multimedia content item usage instruction.

28.   (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the multimedia content item usage instruction is selected from the group consisting of an instruction to playback the multimedia content item as part of a multimedia content item viewing transaction, an instruction to export the multimedia content item as part of a multimedia content item purchase transaction, an instruction to store the multimedia content item as part of a multimedia content item deferred viewing transaction, and an instruction to allow use of the multimedia content item as part of a multimedia content item licensing transaction.

29.   (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein updating the data table based at least in part on the multimedia content item usage instruction includes storing a first multimedia content item usage indicator, the first multimedia content item usage indicator associated with the first multimedia content identifier.

30.   (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the multimedia usage report is based at least in part on the first multimedia content item usage indicator.

31.   (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein the first multimedia content item usage indicator is selected from the group consisting of a content played indicator, a content purchased indicator, and a content licensed indicator.

32.   (Original) The method of claim 26, further comprising:
     automatically receiving a second multimedia content item, the second multimedia content item to replace the first multimedia content item;
     storing the second multimedia content item; and
     updating the data table to include a second multimedia content item identifier, the second multimedia content item identifier corresponding to the second multimedia content item.

33.   (Original) The method of claim 32, wherein storing the second multimedia content item includes deleting the first multimedia content item.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising receiving a storage position identifier from a service provider for each multimedia content item, the storage position identifier specifying a logical storage position for the multimedia content item, the storage position identifier updated by the service provider with each change in the data table.

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